

Commissioner Hodge was born and raised on the eastern plains, an area she has well-represented for decades. Throughout her tenure serving the State of Colorado, Commissioner Hodge has held numerous positions. Commissioner Hodge was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 2000 where she served two terms. She then was elected to the Colorado State Senate and finished her second term in 2016. During her time in the Colorado State Legislature, Commissioner Hodge held several leadership roles, including Chair of the House Local Government Committee, Chair and Vice Chair of the Joint Budget Committee, and Chair of both the Rural Economic Development and Early Childhood Development Joint Legislative Interim Committees. As a legislator she championed legislation supporting whistleblower protections for local government employees; Newborn Heart Defect Screening Pulse Oximetry; and the completion of Fitzsimons Veteran Community Living facility.

In 2016, Commissioner Hodge was elected to serve as the District 5 County Commissioner for Adams County, and in 2018, she served as Chair of the Board. As Commissioner, she maintained an equitable trajectory of projects for the eastern plains, the most notable being the pioneering of an innovative new gravel road mixture and technique. Another notable achievement driven by Commissioner Hodge was the designation of the new Colorado Air and Space Port. She was critical in championing this project, garnering political support and refining Adams County's proposal to expedite the comfort and trust of their partners at Denver International Airport.

While our state has been blessed with capable leadership throughout its history, few rise to the caliber and reputation of Commissioner Hodge. I wish Commissioner Hodge all the best in retirement and send gratitude for her service to the Adams County community and the great state of Colorado. I thank her for her service.

HONORING MICK GLEASON ON HIS
RETIREMENT FROM THE KERN
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kern County Supervisor and U.S. Navy Captain (ret.) Michael "Mick" Gleason. After 35 years of service to his country and community, Mick is retiring from public service at the end of his current term on the Kern County Board of Supervisors.

Mick was born in Nyack, New York and later moved to Haverhill, Massachusetts, where he "unfortunately" became a fan of all things Boston, including the New England Patriots. In 1972, Mick graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and enlisted in the United States Navy. Later in 1999, he enrolled in the Naval Postgraduate School and earned a master's degree in Astronautical Engineering. During his time in the Navy, Mick became Commanding Officer of Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake, located in

Ridgecrest, California, which is what led him and his wife, Robynn, to Kern County, in 2004. He served as the NAWS China Lake Commanding Officer for 2 years.

After retiring from the Navy, Mick decided to continue his public service and successfully ran for and was elected to the Kern County Board of Supervisors, being sworn-in as the 1st District Supervisor in 2013. Over his tenure on the Board, Mick has been a consistent advocate for eastern Kern County, touting the importance of and opportunities related to the region's economic strengths and highly educated workforce, fighting to attract more and diversified businesses to the area. He has also helped lead the County response through difficult times, from the Erskine Fire to the July 2019 earthquakes that damaged Ridgecrest and NAWS China Lake. He has also been a vociferous advocate for NAWS China Lake, knowing that a healthy and robust mission at the base translates to the Ridgecrest community. And, Mick has never shied away from working on controversial, but important issues from reforming the Kern Medical Center to spearheading water conservation in the Indian Wells Valley following enactment of a state law on groundwater sustainability.

Over the years, Mick has been a good friend and advisor with his pulse on the Ridgecrest and northeastern Kern County. Using the skills he developed during his time in the U.S. Navy, Mick has always impressed me with his acumen, including the ability to quickly weigh issues, size-up the impacts to the community, and make a decision. And for anyone who knows Mick, once he makes a decision, he doggedly follows through working to persuade and promote the policy in his trademark accent—a combination of the Boston, Kern County, and western lexicons, with a smattering of military jargon thrown in for good measure—which is renown throughout our community.

I thank Mick for his years of service to our community, both as the Commanding Officer of NAWS China Lake and later as a Kern County Supervisor. Although Mick is taking a step back from his role in public service, I am confident that he will continue to lend his time and expertise to many of the causes that he holds dear. I wish him well as he begins this new chapter of his life, and I know that he is looking forward to spending more time with Robynn, and their three sons, Wes, Paddy, and Jeff, and their families.

RECOGNIZING LANGLEY RESIDENTIAL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BETSY SCHATZ

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Langley Residential Executive Director Betsy Schatz for the service she has provided to our developmental disability community for more than three decades.

The Langley Residential Support Services is a non-profit organization and was founded in 1983 by three churches in McLean, Virginia. It has since continued to expand its reach across the county to help as many people as possible. In fact, Langley now has 15 fulltime

employees, 14 part-time employees and approximately 30 volunteers who provide support and services to adults with developmental disabilities and their families.

For the past 36 years, Langley has been helping families ensure that their adult child, sister, brother or other loved one with a developmental disability has a home to call his or her own. Langley Residential Support Services is dedicated to the mission that all people, regardless of developmental disabilities, have the right to live in dignity and as independently as possible—allowing all to participate as fully as possible in our society.

Since 1988, Betsy Schatz has been at the forefront of the great work and growth of the organization. For 31 years she has been a passionate advocate for people with developmental disabilities and is a true leader in our community. Under her stewardship Langley has been able to expand their assistance to six residential homes, several community drop-in services, and provides numerous other resources to benefit its clients and their families. Langley is a pioneer in this field and assisted more than 50 individuals in the last year alone.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Langley Residential Executive Director Betsy Schatz and in thanking her for her tireless efforts and dedication. She and her team strive to ensure that those with developmental disabilities have fair opportunities and a quality of life that all people deserve. I wish Executive Director Betsy Schatz and Langley Residential Support Services continued success in fulfilling their admirable mission.

IN HONOR OF ADAM EISEN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Adam Eisen who served on the Half Moon Bay City Council for four years, the last year as Mayor. Mayor Eisen is one of the most energetic and optimistic public servants with whom I've had the honor to work.

When Adam ran for city council in 2016, he would have never imagined the challenges the year 2020 would present him while he was mayor of this beautiful coastal town of 13,000. He had to respond to a global pandemic not seen in a century, the resulting economic downturn, devastating wildfires ravaging California communities, and a national social justice movement demanding racial equity.

Adam was a regular presence on weekly county briefings that included more than 200 public officials from school districts, cities, the county, the state and the federal government. In weekly newsletters, Adam relayed much of that information about Covid-19 to residents, from case numbers to testing to business closures, school closures and beach closures. In the early days of the pandemic during the stay at home order, the entire county of San Mateo flocked to the coast to get away and get outside. Local beaches and parking lots resembled Times Square during New Year's Eve. Safety concerns motivated Adam to initiate a five mile from home shelter in place order for the county. As an avid surfer and outdoors enthusiast, this was counterintuitive, but Adam

saw it as a necessary tool to slow community spread of the deadly virus.

In mid-August, lightning struck, literally. More than 14,000 lightning strikes set off a series of 650 wildfires, eventually burning over two million acres in California. One of the fires, the CZU Lightning Complex, burned in San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties. Adam rose to the occasion and responded to this disaster on top of the Covid disaster. He coordinated with other officials to assure emergency vehicles had access to hotspots. He set up Smith Field to assist evacuated fire victims.

Adam was drawn to public service by three broad and ambitious goals. He wanted community members to be involved, he wanted to engage a younger constituency, and he wanted to have the most qualified staff work for the city.

Shortly after Adam and his wife Katherine moved to Half Moon Bay from Connecticut, a tractor ran into a bridge that he used to bike to his mother's house. The damaged bridge was demolished and his path to his mom's was gone. He attended multiple council meetings lobbying to fix the bridge. With his typical optimism, he later told the local newspaper: "The bridge did get fixed; it just took a few years and it's fantastic."

As a devoted father of two young children, Kaleb, 12 and Ezra, 9, Adam wanted to make sure young families and younger people were represented on the council. He created an open channel of communication and made sure their voices were heard.

During his tenure on the council, Adam and his colleagues completed updates of Half Moon Bay's Local Coastal Plan and the General Plan with a great deal of community input. Both plans will impact the area for the next two to three decades. He was also deeply involved in the hiring of a new city manager and city attorney.

Adam worked on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to set standards and guidelines for new and existing parks. He helped revise the City's contract with local horseback riding stable operators to keep beaches accessible for riding yet free of horse manure so that all visitors can enjoy them. He was instrumental in banning single use plastic and flavored tobacco to keep our environment and our children safer.

The pandemic-induced economic downturn required quick and decisive action to keep Half Moon Bay solvent. To increase city revenue, Adam helped initiate Measure U, a ballot initiative increasing transient occupancy taxes, which passed by over 70%.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Adam Eisen who served the residents of Half Moon Bay for four years that feel like a lifetime. He is leaving the council, but I am certain his next chapter will be filled with adventure and with contributions that will benefit everyone on the coastside. It's been my honor to serve with him.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
FREDERICK LEONARD BOLLINGER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Frederick Leonard

Bollinger, who passed away on September 22, 2020, at the age of 103. A native of Sebastopol, California, Frederick was a decorated Army sergeant who served in the European theater during World War II where he earned numerous battle stars and a Bronze Star for valor. Following his military service, Frederick returned home to Sebastopol where he would work on his family's ranch until the late 1970s. At the time of his death, Frederick was one of the oldest living veterans of World War II in the region he called home.

The Bollinger family ranch was sold in 1978 and following the sale, Frederick would go on to volunteer at the Luther Burbank Experimental Gardens, where he helped maintain the nursery for decades. In addition to his fame as one of the region's oldest living WWII veterans, there's a widespread belief in Sonoma County that Frederick may have been the area's last living links to the famed botanist Burbank. In his retirement, Bollinger also joined such organizations as the Native Sons of the Golden West and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He spent lots of time traveling to World War II reunions—and jumping on cruise ships, a favorite vacation outing of his. On the occasion of his 100th birthday, the County of Sonoma declared October 12 would be known as Frederick Bollinger Day.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commemorating the life of a bona fide World War II hero and a beloved member of his community. He will be missed.

RECOGNIZING VICKI GRAHAM FOR
32 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH ACTION
IN COMMUNITY THROUGH
SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vicki Graham for her 32 years of service to Action in Community Through Service (ACTS).

Ms. Graham has become the longest serving employee in ACTS' 51-year history. As a community organization, ACTS fosters hope, provides relief, and promotes self-sufficiency for Prince William area neighbors in crisis. And Ms. Graham has been an essential part of developing this foundation.

Ms. Graham has been a critical part of ACTS and throughout her time with the organization, she enhanced several of the programs ACTS has offered. She served as the longest Director of the ACTS Helpline. What started as a local volunteer hotline has now grown to become a professional crisis hotline with the largest coverage in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and a backup call center for the National Suicide Prevention Hotline. The Helpline answers over 20,000 calls annually which includes over 4,000 suicide crisis calls answered each year. Ms. Graham has been key in making what the ACTS Helpline is today.

Through her 32-year career at ACTS, Ms. Graham has several accomplishments in which further shows the selfless effort she put into her work. Ms. Graham founded the Senior Link program, the Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Team, the Surviving After

Suicide support group, the Parents of Suicide Loss support group, Renewed Hope peer support group and the Traumatic Death Support Group peer led support group. These programs that were founded by Ms. Graham not only provide support to the participants, they also better our community. Ms. Graham did not stop there. She became ACTS first Chief Program Officer, overseeing the operation of ACTS Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Helpline, and Housing services.

I congratulate Ms. Graham and commend her for all she has accomplished. Helpline program participants and our community have benefited immensely thanks to her tireless efforts to make tomorrow better for everyone.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Vicki Graham on her retirement and thank her for her everlasting impact on the Prince William County community.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF RON MINER,
'DJ INDIANA JONES'

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and remember an Indianapolis legend, and my friend, Ron Miner, also known as DJ Indiana Jones who passed on Friday, December 4th.

Ron was an Indianapolis native, attending Ben Davis High School on our community's west side and DJing for his family's business 'Melody Skateland' in the 1980s. He fell in love with hip-hop at an early age and moved to New York City where he promoted for artists such as Boogiemonsters and Heather B before returning to his hometown. Ron established himself as a familiar voice in the Indianapolis hip-hop and Reggae music scenes, managing a local hip-hop group, the Mudkids, and later as a DJ with RadioNow 100.9 and Hot 96.3. As a local businessman, Ron co-founded Crush Entertainment, a midwestern management group, and owned the Casba Bar where he hosted 'Reggae Sundays' and I know his legacy will live on through the many charitable organizations he promoted and supported.

Ron's passing has been deeply felt by his family, friends, Hoosiers and colleagues across our country. He was a friendly and outgoing man who never hesitated to help others, and his passion for music and the hip-hop scene earned him countless fans. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the amazing life of Ron Miner, DJ Indiana Jones. His work has inspired countless individuals in our community, and he leaves a legacy of love for music and his fellow man.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I was en route from my district to the Capitol but was not able to arrive in time for the December 10 vote series. Had I been present, I